

NASHVILLE, Tennessee, August 15, 2001 — On July 5, 2001, Corrections Corporation of America's (CCA) Otter Creek Correctional Center (OCCC) in Wheelwright, Kentucky, experienced a disturbance involving disruptive inmates who were refusing to obey lawful orders by staff to return to their housing units and who were attempting to assault staff. The incident was resolved with no injuries to staff and only minor injuries to two inmates that were caused by other inmate aggressions during the disturbance. Immediately following the incident, corporate officials, working with facility staff, began an investigation into the incident. Following are the significant highlights resulting from that investigation:

Summary of Incident

On the evening of July 5, 2001, following a routine count, several inmates on the recreation yard at OCCC became agitated and hostile towards facility staff. The inmates' agitation stemmed from an earlier confrontation in the dining hall between an inmate and staff member, resulting in the inmate being placed in administrative segregation. As a result of the growing hostility exhibited by disruptive inmates on the recreation yard and their efforts to incite other inmates to participate, the facility was placed on lockdown status and the facility's emergency response team was activated. As most inmates were returning to their housing units, several continued to be disruptive. Warning shots were discharged to prevent further hostilities and encourage compliance with lawful orders to return to the housing units. The disruptive inmates continued to act out in the housing areas of A, B, C, and D units. Disruptive inmates attempted to barricade the housing units and caused damage to windows, sinks, commodes, and partitions inside of the housing units. The housing areas were secured and contained by facility staff as additional response teams from other CCA facilities were en route to assist. Additionally, Kentucky state police units provided support to facility staff on outer perimeter security. Once a sufficient number of staff were present at the facility, inmates were given a final warning to cease and desist all disruptive behavior and to obey lawful orders to return to their bunks or force would be used to enforce such lawful orders. At that time, approximately 3:30 a.m. of July 6, all inmates in those housing areas surrendered without incident.

Significant Findings

- The disturbance appears to be the culmination of numerous minor issues, which were fueled by one inmate.
- Despite the availability and awareness by inmates of a grievance process, the process appeared to be under-utilized.
- Damage was caused in the dormitory and administrative areas.

Significant Actions

- Following extensive interviews by both CCA and Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) officials, approximately 30 inmates were identified as active aggressors and instigators of this incident. Based on evidence gathered,

disciplinary proceedings were conducted at OCCC with 23 inmates, of which 22 were subsequently found guilty. These proceedings were conducted in accordance with IDOC policies, with the full knowledge and oversight of IDOC officials.

- 6 of the identified participants in this disturbance have been transferred back to the IDOC, with the remainder to be transferred back, subject to IDOC's schedule. In addition to disciplinary actions by the IDOC, discussion is underway with local law enforcement officials regarding possible criminal charges stemming from assaultive inmate behavior during the incident. CCA will cooperate fully with any such efforts by local law enforcement officials.
- All damages were repaired at an approximate cost of \$14,000. All repairs and subsequent costs were done solely at CCA's expense.
- Additional security upgrades, such as adding bars to windows, are underway. Again, these upgrades are being done voluntarily by CCA at the company's own expense.
- Facility management is working with facility staff through training and mentoring to promote improved communication between staff and inmates at all staff levels.
- Additional staff training and inmate notifications are underway to enhance inmate utilization of the grievance process.

In addition to CCA's own internal investigation, facility and corporate officials cooperated fully with officials of the IDOC and their assessment efforts. Facility management and corporate officials continue to keep the IDOC apprised of efforts to address the aforementioned issues.

The Otter Creek Correctional Center is a 600-bed medium security facility housing adult male inmates for the state of Indiana. The facility is operated by CCA.

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